

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## HB 1263

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Exempting certified public accountants from private investigator regulations.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Stokesbary, Kirby, Vick, Hurst and Buys.

**House Committee on Business & Financial Services**  
**Senate Committee on Commerce & Labor**

**Background:**

An accounting firm must be licensed to use the title Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or perform attest or compilation services. A firm with an office in the state may not practice public accounting without a license. The practice of public accounting includes consulting services and preparation of tax returns by a licensee. The Board of Accountancy governs the CPAs.

Private investigators are regulated under a separate chapter. The Department of Licensing issues licenses for private investigators and private security guards. A private investigator is a person employed by a private investigator agency for purposes of investigation, escort or bodyguard services, or property loss prevention activities.

**Summary:**

Certified Public Accountants are exempt from regulation as private investigators.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

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|--------|----|---|
| House  | 93 | 5 |
| Senate | 47 | 0 |

**Effective:** July 24, 2015

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*